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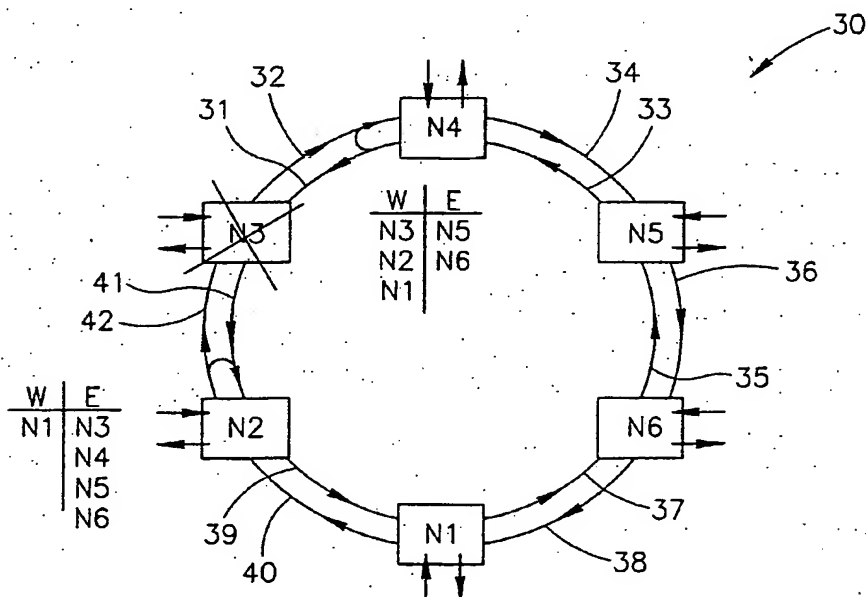
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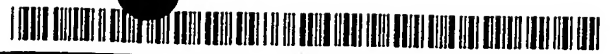
[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR PROTECTION OF ETHERNET TRAFFIC IN OPTICAL RING NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: A method for protecting Ethernet data packets transmitted over SDH/SONET traffic in a ring-like optical network formed by a number of nodes, the method includes utilizing MS-SPRING/BLSR system for SDH/SONET traffic protection and, in case of one or more network failures that result in at least one isolated node in the network, the method comprises preventing initiation of a squelching algorithm of the MS-SPRING/BLSR system with respect to the SDH/SONET virtual containers carrying the data Ethernet packets, while ensuring that the standardized use of byte J1 is prevented with respect to the same SDH/SONET virtual containers carrying the Ethernet packets.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 02 23779 A (CIENA CORP ;SEMAAN GHASSAN (US)) 21 March 2002 (2002-03-21)</p> <p>page 2, line 3 - line 14 page 4, line 6 - line 8 page 6, line 16 - line 17 page 8, line 11 - line 19 page 10, line 13 - line 20 page 11, line 1 - line 2 page 11, line 11 - line 13 page 12, line 13 - line 16 page 14, line 1 - line 3 page 16, line 15 - line 22 page 17, line 15 - line 23 page 18, line 1 - line 9 page 19, line 4 - line 6 claim 7 figure 1 figure 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">--- -/-</p>	1-10

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A	<p>EP 0 708 542 A (AT & T CORP) 24 April 1996 (1996-04-24) column 1, line 31 - line 33 column 2, line 29 - line 36 column 3, line 14 - line 15 column 3, line 45 - line 47 column 5, line 44 - line 50 column 7, line 19 - line 23 column 9, line 1 - line 5 figure 1 figures 6-22</p> <p>---</p>	1-10
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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